

equal educational opportunity, based strictly and solely on their race, something which those of you who believe in God know that the child himself or herself had nothing to do with. So to be punished and deprived for something which you have no control over is the grossest of injustices. Rather than the Omaha Board of Education or the Nebraska Legislature deciding to do anything about this blatant deprivation of rights, it became a job for the federal courts. So, and pardon me Senator Kremer, God Bless the federal courts. Fire fighters who go to fires are all jeopardized by the flames aren't they, Senator Barnett. The flames do not discriminate do they, they'll burn anybody who gets close enough. The water will freeze anybody who gets close enough when it is sub-zero temperatures. Well a Black individual could not be promoted to fire Captain because of racial prejudice and discrimination within the Omaha Fire Division, the Omaha City Council could not, or would not do anything, the Fire Division would not do anything so this individual had to again turn to the federal courts and Judge Urbom, wielding the powers created by the Federal Constitution, has now told Omaha that they cannot promote anybody in the Fire Division until a validated, fair, nondiscriminatory test is compiled and presented to this individual and he receives his appointment. Currently he is being paid a Captain's wages, although not assuming full Captaincy responsibilities. Now I'm going to deal with something that is not strictly racial, that is the right of every human being in this society, whether he or she be born, naturalized, or an alien, legal or illegal, to life, the right not to be deprived of life without due process of law. One of the most important areas is that related to the taking of life by law enforcement officers in violation of the law. The Legislature must take the position of not just enacting laws on the statute books and then allowing them to be totally disregarded. The Legislature must see that the laws it enacts are applied equally and fairly to everybody. When you allow a law enforcement agency to take life in violation of the law, that brings the entire law into contempt, and the law should be brought into contempt and every citizen should thereby be given the right to handle every situation in total disregard of what the statute says. Wearing a uniform and a badge does not authorize one to violate and disregard the law. Those public officials who do not discharge their responsibilities are working a mockery against the law. They are doing a disservice to all citizens. There is no point in standing up talking about human rights, legal rights, or any other right when you cannot be secure in the right to life.

PRESIDENT: Two minutes, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I feel that where this resolution is being considered, all problems in a society that relate to the deprivation of rights must be considered. There are poor White people who are being shot down by the police now. They sharpen their sights and their teeth on Black people because we don't count. But the police don't make those fine distinctions. They want to kill somebody and now that they got away with doing it to me and my kind they're doing it to you and your kind in violation of the law and they're telling you, they ram it down your throat and there is nothing you can do about it and there is nothing you will do about it.